

Town of Pantego

HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

Message from Mayor Paradise

Greetings Pantego! May the Joys of this Holiday Season bring you many Blessings!

Hope, Expectations... and JOY!!

Recently I had the pleasure of listening to a message about Blessed Hope, not only as it relates to the Holiday Season, but in our lives in general... and the Expectations that often come with that. So I asked myself, what do I, personally, hope for during this Holiday Season. Quickly I thought about peace and prosperity for myself and my family, and how as Christians, I hope that we continue to strive to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives, and to be always mindful as to how we may best serve others and our community. That is what I hope for my own family. As for expectations, since I see my glass as always overflowing, especially during times of adversity, I will only expect the best knowing I can reach out to others in times of need. Your hopes and expectations may be completely different based on your own circumstances and beliefs.

So I ask each of you, what is your own hope for this Season and the days after? Perhaps its peace and prosperity, or being able to provide holiday fare for your family without going bankrupt, or perhaps it's just getting through this time of year without falling into the depths of despair. Whatever your own circumstances, may we all reach out and be harbingers of Blessed Hope to one another, and find Joy in all that we do. And to those of you who find yourselves feeling low, lonely, and/or hopeless during this time, please know that we are incredibly fortunate and blessed to have several non-profit organizations who are here to assist, provide guidance, and help see you through.

I also want to challenge each of you to step out of your comfort zones. Get involved. Visit with and get to know your neighbors. So many of us live our busy lives coming and going that we rarely see, much less speak to those who live nearby. Make a point to get out and walk every now and then, or just put a chair in your yard and say hello to those who go by. One thing I've learned about our community is that we're a bunch of friendly folks who genuinely look out for one another. You never know when a simple smile and hello may uplift a person's outlook on life when they need it the most. My hope for all of you is that you may experience the Joy, as I have, that comes from reaching out and being involved in our community.

And please pay close attention to what's going on in our business community. Pantego certainly has a lot to offer and our retailers, restaurants, and other service type organizations can use our patronage to help them succeed, and what better time than this Holiday Season. So before you head out to fight the traffic and holiday crowds, ask yourself if what you're looking for can be found within our own borders. Chances are it can be, not to mention that it's a real pleasure to be greeted by business owners who know you personally. I hope to see many of you as I'm out and about doing my own shopping and exploring the various menu options offered by our wonderful restaurants. I really love what all Pantego has to offer, and I hope you do too!

My family and I sincerely hope that each of you has a very Merry Christmas and Holiday Season, filled with Hopeful Blessings, Peace and Prosperity, and most of all JOY!

Melody Paradise, Mayor



Town Council

Mayor: Melody Paradise
Mayor Pro Tem: Don Surratt
Jane Barrett
Russell Brewster
Don Funderlic
Charlie Price

Town Staff:

City Manager: Sean Fox
City Secretary: Lindsay Wells
Public Safety Chief:
Tom Griffith
Asst Police Chief: Barry Reeves
Asst Fire Chief: Robert Coker
Finance: Fitzhugh Newsome
Public Works: Ron Edwards
Community Development
Director: Chad Joyce
Court: Thressa Householder

Happy Holidays from your Pantego Town Council!

Charlie Price

Jane Barrett

Don Surratt

Mayor Melody Paradise

Russell Brewster

Don Funderlic



Highlights of Town Council's approval of recent ordinances:

Gas Well: Amended regulations including well site work hours, noise limitations, landscaping and screening, administrative fees to cover periodic inspections, and operations of lifts and compressors.

Water Infrastructure Fee: Implemented a fee based on consumption on monthly water bills to help fund infrastructure improvements to aging Town water supply equipment.

Local Option Liquor Election: Citizens approved a measure on the ballot to allow liquor stores in city limits.

Animal Control: Amended codes including the keeping of fowl and number allowed, defining dangerous animals, and defining prohibited animals.

Smoking Establishments: Defined smoking establishments, smoking products, and permitted zoning.

Mayor's Red Kettle Challenge!

It's time once again for Pantego citizens to come out in support of the Salvation Army's 5th annual Mayor's Kettle Challenge! This will be the third year that Pantego's Mayor Melody Paradise has participated with the mayors from Arlington, Kennedale, Mansfield and Dalworthington Gardens.



This year's challenge will kick off at the Town Council meeting on December 10, 2012 where Lieutenant Patrick Jones of the Salvation Army will perform the invocation. Immediately after the invocation, Lt. Jones will discuss the great work that the Salvation Army is able to provide to the community thanks to the generosity of citizens and will present Mayor Paradise with her red kettle where she will make the first donation. Pantego citizens and businesses are encouraged to attend the Council meeting and donate what they are able.

The kettle will remain at Town Hall throughout the week and the challenge will culminate on Saturday, December 15, 2012 at the Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market. Mayor Paradise and town staff and interested volunteers will be ringing the bell from 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. raising funds.

Let's make this year the most successful year ever for the Salvation Army!

See you on Saturday, December 15th!

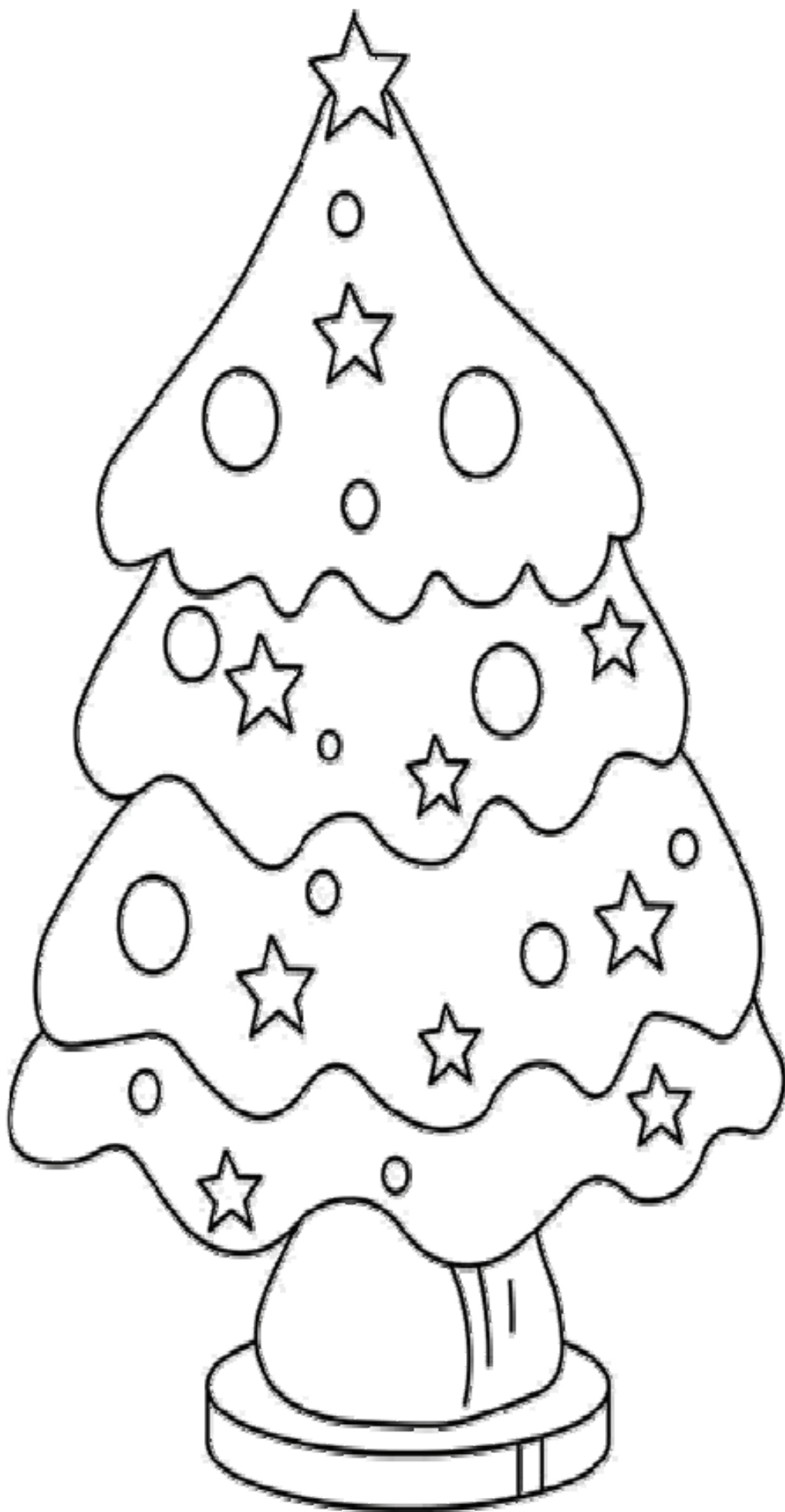
Mayor's Kettle

Challenge 2011 results

2011: Mayor's Red Kettle Challenge Raises More Than \$29,000 for The Salvation Army In One Day.

Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck, Mansfield Mayor David Cook, Pantego Mayor Melody Paradise, Kennedale Mayor Bryan Lankhorst, and Dalworthington Gardens Mayor Michael Tedder competed against one another in a Red Kettle Challenge to see which of their cities could raise the most money for The Salvation Army at one Wal-Mart location in each city.

Mayor Paradise set a personal goal of raising \$3,000 during the Challenge and was able to raise \$3,056.72 winning the Per Capita prize for Pantego.



Fun Christmas Facts

The world's largest Christmas present was the Statue of Liberty. The French gave it to the US in 1886. It is 46.5 meters high and weighs 225 tons!

Bing Crosby's "White Christmas" was released in 1942 and is considered to be the best-selling Christmas song of all time.

The tradition of tracking Santa Claus' progress by NORAD happened by accident in 1955 and has become an annual tradition.

"Jingle Bells" was the first song broadcast from space when Gemini 6 astronauts Tom Stafford and Wally Schirra sang it on December 16, 1965.

In 1999, residents of Maine built the world's biggest ever snowman. He stood at 113 feet tall!

Many parts of the Christmas tree can actually be eaten, with the needles being a good source of Vitamin C.

Electric tree lights were first used just 3 years after Thomas Edison had his first mass public demo of electric lights in 1879. His assistant, Edward Johnson, came up with the idea of electric lights for Christmas trees.



Holiday Crime Prevention Tips Provided by the Pantego Police Department

- **Carry your valuables wisely.** Do not keep cash in your wallet; carry it in an inside pocket. Carry only the credit cards you need and avoid carrying large amounts of cash. **Carry your purse close to you**, with the opening towards your body. Never leave a purse unattended in a shopping cart.
- **If you go to an automatic teller machine** for cash, check for people around and make sure it is well lit and in a safe location.
- **Do not leave valuables in your vehicle.** If you must leave packages in your car, put them in the trunk. Keep receipts with you.
- **Carry a cell phone with you.** If someone makes you suspicious or uncomfortable, notify security or call the police.
- **Whenever possible, park and walk in well-lit areas.** Be aware of your surroundings, especially the people around you. Scan the interior of your car to be sure no one is hiding inside. Check to see if you are being followed. Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle to quickly unlock the door and not be delayed by fumbling and looking for your keys. Lock your vehicle and put up your windows even while you are driving.
- **Protect your credit card numbers and other personal information.** Carefully dispose of receipts that have a credit card number on them. Never provide credit card information in response to unsolicited calls or emails. If you make a purchase with your credit card, obtain the carbons or see that they are destroyed in front of you.
- **Don't announce your new high-dollar purchases after the holidays.** Break down the boxes of TVs, stereos, computers, etc. and turn them inside out before putting them in the trash.
- **If you are traveling for the holidays, make your home look "lived in".** Have a friend or neighbor collect your mail and newspapers or have your service suspended while you are away. Use timers to turn lights off and on.

Online Vacation Watch Request Form

A new online form has been created for the convenience of residents who will be vacationing and would like the Pantego Police Department to watch their home while they are away. The form can be accessed at the Pantego Police Department website at www.townofpantego.com. Just fill complete the form and click the "Submit" button. The form will automatically be transmitted to the Police Department.

Shopping Online

- **Before surfing the Internet**, secure your personal computers by updating your security software. Everyone's computer should have anti-virus, anti-spyware, and anti-spam software, as well as a good firewall installed. Visit www.bytecrime.org for info on cyber crimes and scams.
- **Beware of "bargains" from companies with whom you are unfamiliar**—if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!



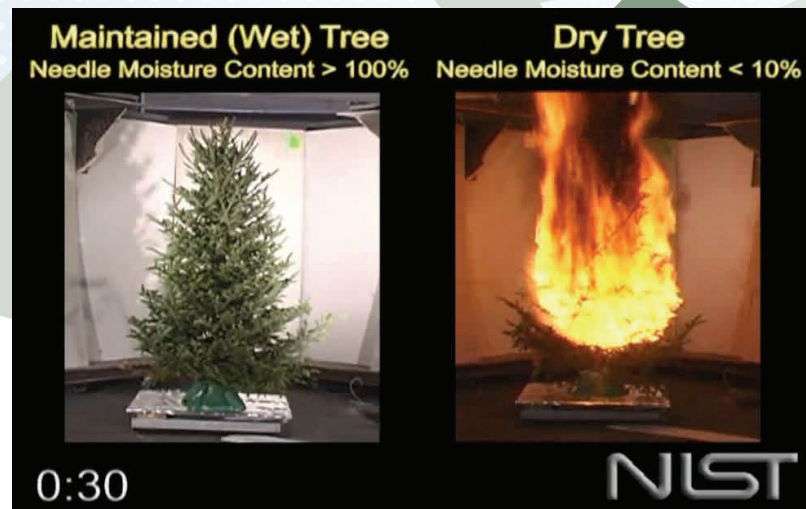


Holiday Fire Safety

Provided by the Pantego Fire-Rescue Department:

The below screen shot of a video demonstrating the difference between a well watered tree and a dry tree illustrates the importance of maintaining your Christmas tree during the holidays. A flame is initiated in both trees simultaneously. The maintained (Wet) tree continues to burn but has not spread even after 1 minute; in fact, the flame in the wet tree self extinguishes and the tree is fully intact at 1 minute and 30 seconds (end of video).

The dry tree becomes involved in flames at 5 seconds; most of the tree is burning at 15 seconds; and at 30 seconds the tree is fully engulfed in flames. Only the tree trunk and portions of some of the larger branches are intact after all the needles have burned away at 1 minute and 30 seconds (end of video).

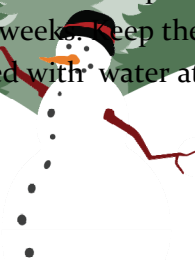


SELECTING A TREE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needles should not break if the tree has been freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk off the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree has been cut too long and has probably dried out, which is a fire hazard.

CARING FOR YOUR TREE

Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks. Be careful not to drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.



DISPOSING OF YOUR TREE

Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or wood-burning stove. When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly. The best way to dispose of your tree is by taking it to a recycling center or having it hauled away by a community pick-up service.

Christmas at Fezziwig's Warehouse

A Short Christmas Story by Charles Dickens

"Yo Ho! my boys," said Fezziwig. "No more work to-night! Christmas Eve, Dick! Christmas, Ebenezer! Let's have the shutters up!" cried old Fezziwig with a sharp clap of his hands, "before a man can say Jack Robinson. . . ."

"Hilli-ho!" cried old Fezziwig, skipping down from the high desk with wonderful agility. "Clear away, my lads, and let's have lots of room here! Hilli-ho, Dick! Cheer-up, Ebenezer!"

Clear away! There was nothing they wouldn't have cleared away, or couldn't have cleared away with old Fezziwig looking on. It was done in a minute. Every movable was packed off, as if it were dismissed from public life forevermore; the floor was swept and watered, the lamps were trimmed, fuel was heaped upon the fire; and the warehouse was as snug, and warm, and dry, and bright a ballroom as you would desire to see on a winter's night.

In came a fiddler with a music book, and went up to the lofty desk and made an orchestra of it and tuned like fifty stomach aches. In came Mrs. Fezziwig, one vast substantial smile. In came the three Misses Fezziwig, beaming and lovable. In came the six followers whose hearts they broke. In came all the young men and women employed in the business. In came the housemaid with her cousin the baker. In came the cook with her brother's particular friend the milkman. In came the boy from over the way, who was suspected of not having board enough from his master, trying to hide himself behind the girl from next door but one who was proved to have had her ears pulled by her mistress; in they all came, any-how and every-how. Away they all went, twenty couple at once; hands half round and back again the other way; down the middle and up again; round and round in various stages of affectionate grouping, old top couple always turning up in the wrong place; new top couple starting off again, as soon as they got there; all top couples at last, and not a bottom one to help them.

When this result was brought about the fiddler struck up "Sir Roger de Coverley." Then old Fezziwig stood out to dance with Mrs. Fezziwig. Top couple, too, with a good stiff piece of work cut out for them; three or four and twenty pairs of partners; people who were not to be trifled with; people who would dance and had no notion of walking.

But if they had been thrice as many, oh, four times as many, old Fezziwig would have been a match for them, and so would Mrs. Fezziwig. As to her, she was worthy to be his partner in every sense of the term. If that's not high praise, tell me higher and I'll use it. A positive light appeared to issue from Fezziwig's calves. They shone in every part of the dance like moons. You couldn't have predicted at any given time what would become of them next. And when old Fezziwig and Mrs. Fezziwig had gone all through the dance, advance and retire; both hands to your partner, bow and courtesy, corkscrew, thread the needle, and back again to your place; Fezziwig cut so deftly that he appeared to wink with his legs, and came upon his feet again with a stagger.

When the clock struck eleven the domestic ball broke up. Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig took their stations, one on either side of the door, and shaking hands with every person individually, as he or she went out, wished him or her a Merry Christmas!

Rice Krispies Treats Holiday Lights

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- or 1 package 10 oz. regular marshmallows
- 4 cups miniature marshmallows
- 6 cups Rice Krispies
- 2 1/4 cups all purpose flour
- Food coloring optional
- Red or Black string licorice



Directions

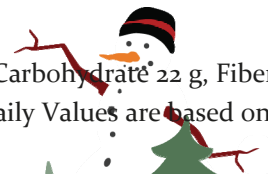
1. In large saucepan melt butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat. Divide marshmallow mixture into 4 or 5 portions. Stir a few drops of different food colors into each portion, if desired.
2. Divide Kellogg's Rice Krispies cereal among marshmallow portions. Stir each until well coated. Cool slightly.
3. Using buttered hands shape cereal mixtures into holiday lights and plug. Place on wax paper.
4. Shape licorice into circle to form holiday lights wire. Attach cereal lights and plug to licorice with frosting. Best if served the same day.

Microwave Directions

In microwave-safe bowl heat butter and marshmallows on HIGH for 3 minutes, stirring after 2 minutes. Stir until smooth. Divide marshmallow mixture into 4 or 5 portions. Stir a few drops of different food colors into each portion, if desired. Follow steps 2 thru 4 above. Microwave cooking times may vary. Note For best results, use fresh marshmallows. 1 jar (7 oz.) marshmallow creme can be substituted for marshmallows. Diet, reduced calorie or tub margarine is not recommended. Store no more than two days at room temperature in airtight container.

Nutrition information

Per serving: Calories 110, Total Fat 2.5 g, Saturated Fat 1.5 g, Cholesterol 5 mg, Sodium 85 mg, Carbohydrate 22 g, Fiber 0 g, Protein 1 g. Daily Values: Vitamin A 10%, Vitamin C 8%, Calcium 0%, Iron 15%. Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet





Pantego Lions Club Annual Food Drive

This year's annual food drive benefiting Arlington charities was a huge success again this year!! Lions and family members received approximately 4,000 pounds of food items with Silverleaf Resorts employees donating an additional 6,000 pounds of food for a total of 10,000 pounds! 25 hours were donated for distribution and 34 hours were donated for pickup and delivery. All food has been delivered to Arlington Charities.

The following Lions Club members and family members were instrumental in making this year's event possible:

Lions: Bailey, Brown, Cassell, Claros, Cooksey, Fox, Gibson, Hanna, Hart, R. Kost, C. Kost, R. Kost, Paradise, Richardson, E & B Stebbins, and Tice

Family members: Fran Brown, Becky Gibson, Shirley Kost, Donna & Lauren Vernon, Max McGee, Rachel & Tracey Kost, Sammie & Emily Evans, and Mia Perez



Pantego Trivia

- Population: 2650
- The town is roughly 1 square mile.
- Pantego is surrounded on three sides by the City of Arlington and on the south side by the City of Dalworthington Gardens.
- May 22, 2012 marked the 60 year anniversary of Pantego.
- Pantego was incorporated in its present form on May 22, 1952.
- Pantego employs 45 full time employees.



A Huge Thank You to Silverleaf Resorts and its Employees!!
Your continued support makes a world of difference!

Pantego's Community Organizations

The Town of Pantego has two wonderful service organizations in town that continue to do great works for the community at large and we are proud to have them:

The Pantego Lions Club and the Texas-Oklahoma District of Kiwanis International.

Message from City Manager Sean Fox

Seasons greetings, Pantego!

It's hard to believe that it is already time to say Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. This has truly been an exciting and productive year! I would like to offer my sincere and humble thanks to the Town Council and Staff for their dedication and service but even more so to our citizens. Because of your ideas, recommendations, opinions, comments, involvement and support in the process, Pantego has drawn together even closer to accomplish more than ever before. We truly are a shared community.

So, as we celebrate this holiday season, I hope we all continue to spend time with family and friends and we use this time to reflect and count our blessings. The greatest gift we could exchange this season is to serve one another.

If I may, I ask you all to remember your neighbors at this time of year, especially the elderly and those who live alone. I ask we all extend a special welcome to those who have come home to Pantego to be with their families and hope they have a wonderful time. I ask that we keep in our prayers, the very best wishes to those who are sick at home or in hospital this holiday season and wish them a speedy recovery. And finally, I ask that we always keep the thought of the men and women serving in our military, at home and aboard and their families, in that most special place, our hearts.

From my family and our family of Town Council and your dedicated Town Staff, we wish your family all the love and blessings of the season and look forward with anticipation to another great year in 2013.

Sean Fox, City Manager

New Years Resolutions from around Town...

Jane Barrett, Councilmember—"My resolution is to win 1st place in the PantegoFEST 5k in my age division!"

Bill Brown, PEDC President—"My resolution is to do more walking and exercising. And less fried foods!"

Stephen Smith, Planning & Zoning Chairman—"My resolution is to spend more time with things that matter like family, and less on things that don't matter."

Barbara Rogers, Community Relations Board Chairwoman—"My resolution is to spend more time with my family, be more health conscientious, encourage the residents of Pantego to join and support the Community Relations Board—it's an awesome way to give back to the community; build up and promote great businesses within Pantego, and finish four quilts (not counting snowman banners) with the assistance from the ladies at Magnolia Quiltworks!"

2012 Year in Pictures



Newly Dedicated
Scottino Drive



Newly promoted
assistant chiefs



Mayor Paradise & Mayor Pro
Tem Surratt at Camp Thurman



Paul Knudsen
PortfolioStudio.net



Miss Pantego Molly Woehl



2011/2012 PYLC



Mayor for the Day
Angela Lilley



Park Row Gateway Arch

In Loving Memory...

*Nothing can ever take away
The love a heart holds dear
Fond memories linger every day
Remembrance keeps them near.*

William Eugene Barney

Katherine Bates

Thomas Wayne Birchman

Ben Butler Bowen

Stephen Crosley

Richard Henry Depweg

John Marvin Hitchcock

Charles Richard Kneer

Thomas Lohner

Merle McCracken

Miriam E. Schneider

Maria Lynn Sell

When a loved one becomes a memory, that memory becomes a treasure.



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